Vacant Posts of Field Publicity Officers

2399. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) how many posts of Field Publicity Officers in his Ministry are lying vacant;

(b) whether it is a fact that his Ministry had advertised 85 deputation posts of Field Publicity Officers in different regions in 'Employment News', dated 4th September 1999 and that has not been filled till date;

(c) whether there is any plan to fill these posts; and

(d) how much more time is required to fill these posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFARS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) 117 posts of Field Publicity Officers are presently vacant.

(b) to (d) 85 vacant posts in Senior Grade of Indian Information Service, Group 'B' were advertised through 'Employment News' dated 4th September 1999. The applications received have been sent to UPSC for final selection of candidates. The posts would be filled up as soon as the recommendations of UPSC are made available.